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## Annual cancer-fighting Relay For Life Event, April 13

**April 1, 2013**— The journey to end cancer starts with a single step. The City of Deltona and the American Cancer Society hopes residents will join in and take that step together. Our local movement to connect us globally to the Relay For Life movement takes place April 13-14, at the Dewey O. Boster Sports Complex, 1200 Saxon Blvd.

Relay For Life begins at noon on Saturday (April 13) and ends with a closing ceremony at 5:30 a.m., Sunday (April 14). Walkers continue throughout the night, signifying that cancer never sleeps.

There are plenty of ways to get involved:

- Visit <u>www.relayforlife.org/deltonafl</u> to register a team for your organization or group of friends.
- Join us at Relay For Life on April 13. Teams sell food, trinkets, host games and more throughout the event.
- Go to <u>www.relayforlife.org</u> to make an online donation to your favorite team. The Deltona Fire Department and the Volusia County Sheriff's Office both have teams raising funds for the event.
- Dedicate a Luminaria to remember people we have lost to cancer, to support people
  who currently have cancer, and to honor people who have fought cancer in the past.
  The Luminaria Ceremony begins at 9 p.m., April 13. The power of this ceremony lies
  in providing an opportunity for people to work through grief and find hope. You can
  purchase a luminaria on the Web site as well.

The event itself is packed with activities on the stage and on the walking track. The opening ceremony at noon will include the presentation of colors by the Pine Ridge High School

Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC), the Pledge of Allegiance led by Shannon McNeil and the national anthem by Amanda Melito. The opening ceremony will include welcome messages given by Diane Smith, Volusia County School Board Chairman (serving District 5) and Lisa McNeil, Operations Chair for Deltona Relay For Life. Deltona Mayor John Masiarczyk and Volusia County Councilwoman Patricia Northey will also speak.

Jennifer Gill will speak to survivors prior to the opening of the track when area cancer survivors take to the track for the first lap. The parade of teams follows on the track as performances by Tommy Brant, a Zumba troup and the Heritage Middle School chorus and Eaglets happens on the stage. There's a caregivers ceremony at 3:30 p.m. followed by the Deltona Relays' Got Talent competition. At 7:30 p.m. there will be a celebration of 100 years of the American Cancer Society followed by the finale for Deltona Relays' Got Talent.

Late night entertainment includes a Mr. Relay Jr. contest followed Mr. Relay Teen/Adult contest, campsite awards, midnight Zumba, a scavenger hunt, kickball tournament and more. There's an egg-holding breakfast challenge at 4 a.m., Sunday, followed by 5 a.m. Yoga and the closing ceremony at 5:30 a.m.

Please carefully consider how to get involved. When you walk to end cancer at a Relay event, it's your opportunity to not only **HONOR** cancer survivors and **REMEMBER** loved ones lost, but also to **RAISE AWARENESS** about what we can do to stay well from cancer and raise money to help fuel the world's largest walk to end cancer.